

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~Aa~~ automatic cash accounting system for use in a hospital, comprising the activities of:

~~a message processor for~~ receiving, via a message processor, message data including a first income amount total value, representing cash income received during a first time period, and an associated first income source identifier identifying one of a plurality of departments internal to said hospital providing said associated first income amount total value;

receiving, via said message processor, second message data identifying medical insurance reimbursement income amounts received for services rendered to multiple patients during said first time period; and

~~a data processor for~~ automatically processing, via a data processor, said received message data by,

identifying an income account associated with said one of said departments based on said first income source identifier, and for updating said identified income account with said first income amount total value to indicate said first income amount total value received by said identified income account during said first time period,

collating and combining data representing total values from a plurality of income accounts to provide a first income amount cumulative total value representing combined cash income total value for said departments during said first time period and

combining said reimbursement income amounts with said cash total value for said departments during said first time period to provide a total amount, and

creating a financial statement record using said ~~combined cash income total value for said departments~~ total amount during said first time period.

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein ~~further comprising the activities of~~

~~deriving~~ said received message data ~~is derived~~ from a processing device associating a user selected income source identifier with said first income amount total value; and

~~providing cash register functions at said processing device provides cash register functions.~~

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said message processor receives the second message data received in said activity of receiving second message data includes including~~ a medical insurance reimbursement income amount value for services rendered to a particular patient and an associated patient identifier, and

~~wherein said activity of automatically processing, further comprises the activity of said data processor,~~

~~identifies~~ identifying an income account associated with said patient based on said patient identifier, and updates said identified patient income account to reflect said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received and

~~creates~~ creating said financial statement record using said combined cash income total value and data derived from said patient income account.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein said the received message data identifies a plurality of individual cash transactions performed during said first time period and associated with a hospital department, and said first income amount total value comprises a total transaction income amount value for said first time period.

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 5, wherein

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

a transaction income amount value comprises a disbursement comprising a negative income amount value.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 5, wherein said received message data comprises a file and an individual cash transaction comprises an electronic funds transfer.

8. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said message processor receives the second message data received during said activity of receiving second message data identifying identifies medical insurance reimbursement income amounts for multiple patients, and~~ an individual message data item includes a medical insurance reimbursement income amount value and an associated patient identifier, and wherein

said data processor activity of automatically processing said received message data includes identifying identifies an income account associated with said one of said patients based on said patient identifier, and updates said identified income account to indicate said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received and, wherein

said activity of creating creates said financial statement record includes using said combined cash income total value and data derived from said patient income account.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein said received message data identifies a plurality of individual cash transactions performed during said first time period and associated with a hospital department, and said first income amount total value comprises a transaction income amount value, and

said activity of automatically processing includes ~~data processor~~ accumulates accumulating a plurality of individual cash transaction income amount values for transactions performed during said first time period for said hospital department to provide a cumulative total value for said first time period.

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein said source identifier incorporates an account number identifying said income account associated with said one of said departments.

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein said activity of automatically processing includes data processor updates an account for the overall hospital in response to said first income amount total value representing combined cash income for said departments for said first time period.

12. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 11, wherein
said activity of automatically processing data processor further includes updates updating an account for a plurality of hospitals including said hospital in response to said first income amount total value representing combined cash income for said departments for said first time period.

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein said financial statement record identifies at least one of, (a) a total income received by individual departments of said plurality of departments during said first time period, (b) total income received by individual departments of said plurality of departments during said first time period deposited in a bank, and (c) individual cash transactions performed during said first time period by individual hospital departments.

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 1, wherein said first time period comprises at least one of: (i) a day, (ii) a week, (iii) a month, and (iv) a year, and

said plurality of departments internal to said hospital include at least two of, (a) a cafeteria, (b) a garage, (c) a shop, (d) a pharmacy, (e) a café or restaurant, (f) cashiers office, (g) a clinical department, (h) an outpatient department, (i) an inpatient department, (j) an imaging department, and (k) a laboratory.

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

15. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~An~~ automatic cash accounting ~~system~~ for use in a healthcare enterprise, comprising the activities of:

~~a message processor for receiving, via a message processor,~~ a plurality of messages corresponding to a plurality of individual cash transactions performed during a first time period and associated with a hospital department, and an individual message includes a transaction income amount total value and an associated first source identifier identifying one of a plurality of departments internal to said hospital providing said associated transaction income amount value and a medical insurance reimbursement income amount value for services rendered to a particular patient and an associated patient identifier;

~~a data processor for processing, via a data processor,~~ said received plurality of messages for,

identifying an income account associated with said one of said departments based on said first income source identifier, and for updating said identified income account to indicate said transaction income amount total value received during said first period,

identifying an income account associated with said patient based on said patient identifier, and updating said identified patient income account to reflect said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received

accumulating a plurality of individual cash transaction income amount total values for transactions performed during said first time period for said hospital department to provide a cumulative total value for said first time period,

collating and combining cumulative total values associated with a corresponding plurality of departments to provide a first income amount total value representing combined cash income for said departments during said first time period and

creating a financial statement record using said combined cash income total value for said departments during said first time period and data derived from said patient income amount.

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

16. (Currently Amended) A system method according to claim 15, wherein

said received plurality of messages comprise a file, and said individual message is conveyed within said file and

~~said messages include a medical insurance reimbursement income amount value for services rendered to a particular patient and an associated patient identifier, and said data processor,~~

~~identifies an income account associated with said patient based on said patient identifier, and updates said identified patient income account to reflect said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received and~~

~~creates said financial statement record using said combined cash income total value and data derived from said patient income account.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A method of cash accounting system for use in a hospital, comprising the activities of:

via a message processor for,

receiving first message data including a first income amount total value determining income received during a first time period and an associated first source identifier, said first source identifier identifying one of a plurality of departments internal to said hospital providing said associated first income amount total value, and

receiving second message data including a second income amount total value determining income received during said first time period and an associated second source identifier, said second source identifier identifying one of a plurality of organizations external to said hospital providing said associated second income amount total value, wherein said second message data identifies medical insurance reimbursement income amounts for multiple patients; and

~~a data processor for collating and combining, via a data processor, a plurality of first income amount total values from a corresponding plurality of departments to provide a first income amount cumulative total value representing combined cash income for said departments for said first time period, and for collating and combining a plurality of second income amount total values from a corresponding~~

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

plurality of organizations to provide a second income amount cumulative total value representing combined cash income from said organizations for said first time period and creating a financial statement record using said cumulative total value representing combined cash income for said departments and said second income amount cumulative total value for said first time period.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17, wherein

said first time period comprises at least one of, (i) a day, (ii) a week, (iii) a month and (iv) a year, and

said plurality of departments internal to said hospital include at least two of, (a) a cafeteria, (b) a garage, (c) a shop, (d) a pharmacy, (e) a café or restaurant, (f) cashiers office, (g) a clinical department, (h) an outpatient department, (i) an inpatient department.

19. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17, wherein

~~said data processor combines~~ further comprising combining said cumulative total value representing combined cash income for said departments and said second income amount cumulative total value for said first time period to derive a value representing combined cash income for said hospital during said first time period.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17, wherein

said plurality of organizations external to said hospital include at least two organizations of, (a) a health maintenance organization (HMO), (b) an insurance company, (c) a patient, (d) a debt collection agency, (e) another healthcare provider enterprise.

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17, wherein

said first message data including said first income amount total value is received from at least one of, (a) a cash register, and (b) a processing device with cash register functions.

22. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17, wherein

~~said received second message data identifies medical insurance reimbursement income amounts for multiple patients, and~~ an individual message data item includes a medical insurance reimbursement income amount value and an associated patient identifier, and

~~said data processor identifies further comprising identifying~~ an income account associated with said one of said patients based on said patient identifier, and updates said identified income account to indicate said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received and

~~creates~~ creating said financial statement record using data derived from said patient income account.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17, wherein

said message data identifies a plurality of individual cash transactions performed during a first time period and associated with a hospital department, and said first income amount total value comprises a total transaction income amount value during said first time period.

24. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 23, wherein

a transaction income amount value comprises a disbursement comprising a negative income amount value.

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

25. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 17,
wherein

said received message data comprises a file.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for an ~~An~~ automatic cash accounting
system for use in a healthcare enterprise, comprising the activities of:

~~a message processor for~~ receiving, via a message processor, message data
including a first income amount total value determining income received during a first
time period and an associated first source identifier, said first source identifier identifying
one of a plurality of departments internal to said hospital providing said associated first
income amount total value, said message data also indicating a plurality of individual
cash transactions performed during said first time period and associated with multiple
patients, and an individual message data item includes a transaction income amount value
and an associated transaction income source identifier, said transaction income source
identifier identifying one of a plurality of patients providing said associated transaction
income amount value;

~~a data processor for~~ identifying, via a data processor, an income account
associated with said one of said patients based on said transaction income source
identifier, and for updating said identified income account to indicate said transaction
income amount value received by said identified income account during said first time
period and for

creating a financial statement record using said hospital department first
income amount total value and said transaction income amount value for said first time
period.

27. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 26,
wherein

said received message data comprises a file.

28. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 26,
wherein

Ser. No 10/614,649

PATENT
02P20262US01

~~said message processor receives second message data~~ further comprising the activities of

receiving second message data identifying medical insurance reimbursement income amounts for multiple patients for services rendered to said multiple patients in said first time period and

~~said data processor identifies~~ identifying income accounts associated with said multiple patients based on said associated patient identifiers, and updates updating said identified income accounts to indicate said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received.

29. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 28, ~~wherein~~

~~said data processor combines~~ further comprising combining said hospital department first income amount total value and said transaction income amount value and said medical insurance reimbursement income amounts for multiple patients in creating said financial statement record.

30. (Currently Amended) A ~~system~~ method according to claim 26, ~~wherein further comprising the activities of~~

~~said message processor receives~~ receiving second message data identifying a single medical insurance reimbursement income amount for multiple patients, and ~~identifies~~ identifying a source organization of said reimbursement income amount, and

~~said data processor identifies~~ identifying an organization income account associated with said source organization, and ~~updates~~ updating said organization income account to indicate said medical insurance reimbursement income amount value received.